



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

OWEN FAMILY PAPERS
1835-1983

Processed by:

Gregory G. Poole
Archival Technical Services

Accession Number: 1991.120
Date Completed: March 06, 1991
Location: XII-E-4
Microfilm Accession Number: 1267

MICROFILMED

INTRODUCTION

The Owen Family Papers (1835-1983) are centered on the Owen family of Covington (Tipton County), Tennessee. The Owen Family Papers were the gift of Mr. Wayne Owen of Covington, Tennessee.

The materials in this finding aid measure .84 cubic feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Owen Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Owen Family Papers, comprising 300 items, span the years 1853-1983. The collection consists of accounts, announcements, clippings, correspondence, financial records, genealogical data, notebooks, photographs, printed materials, school reports, sermon notes, writings, and several miscellaneous items.

The Owen Family Papers are centered on the Owen family of Covington (Tipton County), Tennessee. The primary personality is the Reverend Samuel A. Owen, a Baptist minister of Covington. The Reverend Owen was the minister of Oak Grove Baptist church from February 1905 until July 1906.

The bulk of the collection is composed of correspondence. Unfortunately, the poor quality of the photocopies makes for difficult reading. There are several letters from Charles Owen, brother of Samuel, to his mother, as well as his brother, Samuel. The letters to his mother, Ellen, are descriptions of army life in World War I, United States. A very interesting portion of the correspondence is concerned with love letters between Samuel Owen (Tommie Timkins) to Kate Rich (Maude). The two were later married. The correspondence from James I. Ralph provides firsthand accounts of the great San Francisco earthquake of 1906, as well as other information on life in early California.

Other parts of the collection include various accounts dealing primarily with Southern Baptist concerns, calling card addressed to Kate Owens, several clippings, one bank book, as well as several unlabeled photographs. There is an early notebook of the Reverend Sabaret Rich, dated 1835-1850, and notes from sermons preached by the Reverend Samuel Owen. Finally, there are two histories of the community. One is a history of Oak Grove Baptist Church and another is a history of the Oak Grove community.

Although there are many drawbacks to using photocopies of original materials, the Owen Family Papers are a good source for the genealogist and the social historian who may be interested in finding out more about one Tennessee family after the Civil War.

CONTAINER LIST

Microfilm Roll # 1

Box 1

1. Accounts – Bills and receipts – Owen family
2. Announcements – Wedding, 1888
3. Cards – Calling – Miscellaneous
4. Church records – Parrans Chapel, Hardeman County, Tennessee
5. Clippings – Miscellaneous
6. Correspondence – Albert - Bryan
7. Correspondence – David - Fortner
8. Correspondence – Irene - Lowe
9. Correspondence – McClanchan - Morris
10. Correspondence – Owen, Charles to Ellen Owen
11. Correspondence – Owen, Charles to Sidney Owen
12. Correspondence – Owen, Charles to Katie Rich
13. Correspondence – Owen, Katie
14. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel
15. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Charles L. Owen
16. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Ellen Owen
17. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to L.P. Owen
18. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Katie Rich, 4-29-1889 to 6-29-1889
19. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Katie Rich, 7-18-1889 to 9-9-1889
20. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Katie Rich, 9-18-1889 to 10-25-1889
21. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Katie Rich, 11-5-1889 to 11-26-1889
22. Correspondence – Owen, Samuel to Katie Rich, 12-10-1889 to undated
23. Correspondence – Ralph, James I.

Box 2

1. Correspondence – Rich, Katie to Samuel Rich
2. Correspondence – Sallie - Summers
3. Correspondence – Tracy - Wright
4. Correspondence – Unknown
5. Financial Records – Bank book – Tipton County Bank
6. Genealogical data – Owen family
7. Notebook – Rich, Saberet, 1835-1850
8. Obituary – Owen, J.W.
9. Photographs – unnamed
10. Poetry
11. Printed materials – Advertisements
12. Printed materials – Booklet – “Centennial Year Oak Grove Baptist Church”
13. Printed materials – Booklet – “Singing Books”
14. Printed materials – Bulletin – Vanderbilt Philosophic and Dialectic Society, 1888

15. Printed materials – Outline – “Chronological Harmony of Our Lord”
16. Recipes
17. School reports – Owen, Charles H.
18. Sketches, drawings, etc. – “Like Loves Like”
19. Sermon – Notes – Owen, Samuel
20. Writings – “History of Oak Grove”